



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 06530.0276

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Marc O. SCHURR et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 3731
	)	
Application No.: 09/957,451	)	Examiner: D. Erez
	)	
Filed: September 21, 2001	)	
	)	
For: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR	)	Confirmation No.: 2507
FOLDING AND SECURING	)	
TISSUE	)	

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the document listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08. A copy of the listed U.S. Patent document has not been provided. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination in the above-referenced application.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed document and indicate that it was considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes "prior art." If the Examiner applies the document as prior art

against any claims in the application and Applicants determine that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of the document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should it be applied against the claims of the present application.

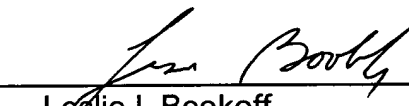
If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge these fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: August 11, 2006

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Leslie I. Bookoff  
Reg. No. 38,084

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	09/957,451
				Filing Date	September 21, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Marc O. SCHURR
				Art Unit	3731
				Examiner Name	D. Erez
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	06530.0276

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 AUG 11 2006  
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U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US-6,716,226 B2	04-06-2004	Sixto, Jr. et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
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**Note: Submission of copies of U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications is not required.**

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation <sup>6</sup>

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.